

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 05536 111539Z

51

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 AID-20 PC-10 SR-02 ORM-03

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 OMB-01 SY-04 OPR-02 IO-14 DRC-01 /138 W

----- 104498

O R 111501Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 242

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 5536

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, CI

SUBJECT: SEPT 11 ANNIVERSARY; LETELIER DEPARTURE

REF: SANTIAGO 5488

1. IN LACONIC STATEMENT FOREIGN MINISTRY YESTERDAY EVENING SEPT 10 ANNOUNCED THAT GOC HAD RELEASED EX-FOREIGN MINISTER ORLANDO LETELIER FROM HIS ARREST UNDER STATE OF SIEGE LAW, AND HAD GIVEN HIM SAFECONDUCT FOR TRIP TO VENEZUELA. PRESIDENT GENERAL PINOCHET TOLD REPORTERS HE HAD AUTHORIZED LETELIER TO LEAVE CHILE "WITHOUT RETURN." PRESS PUT ANNOUNCEMENT IN BACK PAGES.

2. PINOCHET ALSO TOLD REPORTERS THAT IN CONNECTION WITH HIS SEPT 11 ANNIVERSARY STATEMENT HE WOULD RELEASE THREE NEWS ITEMS TODAY OF STRIKING IMPORTANCE -- ONE NATIONAL AND TWO INTERNATIONAL. WELL INFORMED SOURCES WITHIN GOC REPORTEDLY HINTED AT SOME RELAXATION IN INTERNAL SECURITY POLICIES.

3. ABOVE HINT PRESUMABLY RELATED TO SEPT 10 AND SEPT 11 ISSUES OF DIARIO OFICIAL, WHICH APPEARED TOGETHER SEPT 11 WITH COMPLEX PAIR NEW DECREE LAWS. THESE DL'S FIRST SET UP SIX
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PAGE 02 SANTIA 05536 111539Z

LEVELS OF STATES OF EMERGENCY, THEN DECLARE CHILE IS IN STAGE III,

"STATE OF SIEGE, GRADE OF INTERNAL DEFENSE" FOR NEXT SIX MONTHS.
IN TEL TO FOLLOW WE SHALL ANALYZE MEANING OF THIS REDUCTION
FROM STATE OF WAR, BUT BELIEVE THIS CHANGE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT
NECESSARILY BE INTERPRETED AS INDICATING ANY SIGNIFICANT
REDUCTION IN GOC AUTHORITY TO DO EFFECTIVELY AS IT WISHES IN TERMS
OF SECURITY PRACTICE.

4. SANTIAGO MILITARY GOVERNOR AUTHORIZED SHORTENING OF CURFEW
BY ONE HOUR (FROM 2:00 TO 5:30 AM) FOR SEPT 12, SEPT 18-19
(NATIONAL HOLIDAYS) AND SEPT 21-22.

5. MANY PUBLIC AND PRIVATE BUILDINGS AND AUTOMOBILES ARE
FLYING FLAGS FOR THIS OCCASION, WHICH IS NOT OBLIGATORY.
MASS MEETING GATHERING HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF CITIZENS TO
COMMEMORATE COUP TAKES PLACE IN LATE AFTERNOON.
POPPER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 11 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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